Restoring Water Quality in Rice Lake

Clean Water Funds: 2012

Clean Water Grant	$34,110
Leveraged Funds*	$7,208
Total Project Budget	$41,318

*** Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match**

Target Water:
Rice Lake, North Fork Crow River

Project Sponsor:
North Fork Crow River Watershed District

Grant Period:
January 2012—December 2013

Project Contact:
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C12-180 - Conservation Drainage

Project Narrative

In the North Fork Crow River Watershed, land use is mainly row crop agriculture with an extensive drainage system. Many of the existing tile lines have open intakes that transport sediment and nutrients to open ditches that drain to the North Fork Crow River. The river flows into Rice Lake which has elevated phosphorus levels. Studies show a major source of phosphorus loading comes from animal manure. Field applied manure has potential to runoff to open tile intakes being a direct path to surface water.

The project will implement several agricultural conservation practices including rock inlets, controlled outlets and woodchip bioreactors, to reduce the nutrients, sediment and volume of water being transported by field tile.

Changing open tile inlets to rock inlets will help in reducing sediment and phosphorus from entering the tile lines. Controlled outlets will help to reduce runoff and the nitrogen entering the ditches. Woodchip bioreactors will decrease both nitrogen and phosphorus. Implementation of these practices and continued education of landowners will assist in the reduction of nutrients entering the river.

Proposed Outcomes:

Project Outputs:

30 Rock Inlets - Rice Lake, North Fork Crow River

2 Controlled Outlets - Rice Lake, North Fork Crow River

Woodchip Bioreactors - Rice Lake, North Fork Crow River

Actual Outcomes:

Project in Progress

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